

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A thermoplastic polymer powder which is obtained by an underwater cutting process, the thermoplastic polymer powder comprising an acrylic block copolymer (I) wherein said acrylic block copolymer is a triblock copolymer (B)(A)(B) comprises at least one wherein polymer block (A) comprising comprises structural units originating from an acrylic ester; and at least one polymer block bonded thereto and selected from polymer blocks block (B) comprising comprises structural units originating from a methacrylic ester and polymer blocks (C) comprising structural units originating from an acrylic ester different from that of the polymer block (A) wherein said thermoplastic polymer powder;

has a complex dynamic viscosity $\eta^*(5)$ of $5.0 \times 10^3 \text{ Pa} \cdot \text{s}$ or less, the viscosity $\eta^*(5)$ being measured under conditions of a temperature of 250 °C and an angular frequency of 5 rad/sec;

has a Newtonian viscosity index n of 0.50 or less, the Newtonian viscosity index n being represented by the following equation (1):

$$n = \log \eta^*(5) - \log \eta^*(50) \quad (1)$$

wherein n represents the Newtonian viscosity index, $\eta^*(5)$ represents the complex dynamic viscosity (unit: $\text{Pa} \cdot \text{s}$) measured under conditions of a temperature of 250 °C and an angular frequency of 5 rad/sec, and $\eta^*(50)$ represents the complex dynamic viscosity (unit: $\text{Pa} \cdot \text{s}$) measured under conditions of a temperature of 250 °C and an angular frequency of 50 rad/sec; and

has an average particle diameter of 1 mm or less.

2. (Original) The thermoplastic polymer powder according to claim 1, wherein the melt viscosity measured with a rotary viscometer at 250 °C and a shear rate of 0.2 sec^{-1} is 3000 Pa·s or less.

Claim 3 (Cancelled).

4. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic polymer powder according to claim 1, wherein the weight average molecular weight of the acrylic block copolymer (I) is from 5,000 to 200,000.

5. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic polymer powder according to claim 1, wherein the weight average molecular weight of the polymer block (A) constituting the acrylic block copolymer (I) is from 1,000 to 150,000, and the weight average molecular weights of the polymer block (B) ~~and the polymer block (C)~~ are is from 2,000 to 50,000.

Claim 6 (Cancelled).

7. (Currently Amended) The thermoplastic polymer powder according to claim 1, wherein the difference between the solubility parameter $\sigma(A)$ (unit: $\text{MPa}^{1/2}$) of the starting monomer(s) constituting the polymer block(s) (A) and the solubility parameter $\sigma(B)$ ~~or $\sigma(C)$~~ (unit: $\text{MPa}^{1/2}$) of the starting monomer(s) constituting the polymer block (B) ~~or the polymer block (C)~~ is 2.5 or less.

8. (Previously Presented) The thermoplastic polymer powder according to claim 1, which is for slush molding or rotational molding.

Claims 9-12 (Cancelled)

13. (New) The thermoplastic polymer powder according to claim 1, wherein the underwater cutting process comprises extruding the acrylic block copolymer (I) through a micro-die into water, and then hot-cutting at a temperature of about 80°C.